

## House Republican Press Release

July 28, 2005  
Press Office: 860-240-8700

### **\$86,000 for Safe Haven of Greater Waterbury Announced**



Governor M. Jodi Rell today announced that the state has awarded \$86,000 to Safe Haven of Greater Waterbury, Inc. to provide age-appropriate sex abuse education to children ages 5 to 18.

“With this money, youth-oriented groups like the YMCA and the Girl Scouts will make appropriate educational presentations on sex abuse,” Governor Rell said. “These funds will protect our most vulnerable young people, and I cannot think of a better investment.”

“We are very grateful to CHEFA for funding this program,” Executive Director Peggy Panagrossi said. “Annually, Safe Haven presents our education program to over 6,000 school age children. This program will help children recognize abuse and help them learn how to increase their personal safety,”

“I strongly agree with the governor’s assesment of this funding as a priority, and I extend my sincerest gratitude to Governor Rell for her consideration on this,” said Representative Selim Noujaim (R-74<sup>th</sup> District). “It is critical to invest in the protection of children from the horrors of abuse.”

“This is a great opportunity to invest in the important work of Safe Haven,” said Representative Anthony D’Amelio (R-71st District). “I thank the governor for her work in this area, and once again taking the lead in the effort to keep children safe.”

Safe Haven of Greater Waterbury provides free, confidential emergency shelter and comprehensive supportive services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault..

The grant was awarded by the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority.